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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hiroshi NOMURA

Group Art Unit : 2851

Appl. No. : 10/646,735

Examiner : David M. GRAY

Filed : August 25, 2003

Confirmation No. : 1189

For : LENS BARREL INCORPORATING THE  
ADVANCING/RETRACTING MECHANISM

**THIRD SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
220 20th Street S.  
Customer Window, Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were previously filed, Applicant hereby calls to the Examiner's attention the following documents:

Applicant submits herewith a copy of an English language translation of an Office Action from the German Patent Office that was mailed on October 20, 2004 with respect to German Patent Application No. DE 103 52 969.1, which is a family member of commonly assigned (and duly cited) U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0156832, in which the following documents were cited:

(1) . European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 598 703, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 4,952,955; and

(2) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-15682, together with an English language Abstract of the same.

The relevance of each document, as ascertained by the German Examiner are set forth in the German Office Action.

Applicant also submits herewith a copy of an English language translation of an Office Action from the German Patent Office that was mailed on October 19, 2004 with respect to German Patent Application No. DE 103 07 520.8, which is the parent application of above-noted German Patent Application No. DE 103 52 969.1 and is also a family member of commonly assigned U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0156832, in which the following documents were cited:

(3) U.S. Patent No. 4,937,609. Applicant notes that this document was previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement and thus a copy is not being provided herewith;

(4) European Patent Application Publication No. EP 0 810 466, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 5,909,600;

(5) German Patent Application Publication No. DE 33 17 999, together with patent family member U.S. Patent No. 4,545,661; and

(6) German Patent Application Publication No. DE 196 23 066, together with patent family members U.S. Patent No. 5,790,911 and U.S. Patent No. 5,790,907.

The relevance of each document, as ascertained by the German Examiner are set forth in the German Office Action.

Further to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patents are not enclosed herewith. However, if any copies are needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of documents (1), (2), and (4)-(6) are attached hereto and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has not issued in the present application, and thus no fee is believed necessary to ensure consideration of the submitted material. However, if an Office Action on the merits has issued and is crossing this statement in the mail, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fee necessary for the consideration of this statement, including any payment under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Hiroshi NOMURA

*Will. Boshnick*  
*Reg. No. 44,550*

Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

December 6, 2004  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.  
P23685Application No.  
10/646,735INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant  
Hiroshi NOMURA et al.Filing Date  
August 25, 2003Group  
2851

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CL AS S	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4 9 5 2 9 5 5	08/28/90	IWATA et al.			
	4 9 3 7 6 0 9	06/26/90	WAKABAYASHI et al.			
	5 9 0 9 6 0 0	06/01/99	KOSAKO			
	4 5 4 5 6 6 1	10/08/85	HAMAGUCHI et al.			
	5 7 9 0 9 1 1	08/04/98	REIBL			
	5 7 9 0 9 0 7	08/04/98	REIBL			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	0 5 9 8 7 0 3	05/25/94	E.P.O			
9	- 1 5 6 8 2	01/17/97	JAPAN			
	0 8 1 0 4 6 6	03/12/97	E.P.O			
	3 3 1 7 9 9 9	11/24/83	GERMANY			
1	9 6 2 3 0 6 6	12/11/97	GERMANY			

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

1	English language Abstract of JP 9-15682.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.